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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. LOPEZ PORTILLO ON FOREIGN POLICY

DURING A SEPTEMBER 21 PRESS CONFERENCE IN CARACAS, PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ PORTILLO OF MEXICO SAID:

--THE DECISION BY MEXICO TO JOIN OPEC WILL DEPEND ON CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT IN NO CASE WOULD MEXICO SELL OIL AT LESS THAN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET PRICE.

--NO DECISION CAN BE MADE ON BELIZE WITHOUT CONSULTING THE CITIZENS OF BELIZE.

--THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT "THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JUST CLAIMS OF THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE."

--MEXICO WILL NOT RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHILE AS LONG AS THE PRESENT SITUATION EXISTS.
(UNCLASSIFIED) CARACAS 11362, 9/23.)

2. SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS: A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

THE NATIONAL PARTY ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 23 THAT MULTIRACIAL SPORTING EVENTS WOULD BE PERMITTED IN SOUTH AFRICA AT ALL LEVELS. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE RACIAL GROUPS TO MAINTAIN SEPARATE ORGANIZATIONS, SPORTS EVENTS BETWEEN TEAMS FROM DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS WILL BE AUTHORIZED. IN ADDITION, MIXED TEAMS WILL BE PERMITTED TO REPRESENT SOUTH AFRICA OVERSEAS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: AS A COUNTRY WHICH LOVES SPORTS, SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN HIT HARD BY ITS INTERNATIONAL ATHLETIC OSTRACISM. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, HOWEVER, WHETHER THE CHANGE OF POLICY WILL ACHIEVE THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVE GAINING REENTRY INTO INTERNATIONAL SPORTS. AS WELCOME AS IT MAY BE, THIS REPRESENTS ONLY A SLIGHT SHIFT IN BASIC APARTHEID POLICY. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) PRETORIA 4362, 9/24.) KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, MORNING SUMMARY, PRESIDENT ELECT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE238162
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: GAMBER
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760362-0898
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760920/aaaaaqwc.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SSO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS
TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, SHUM, MX, SF, (LOPEZ PORTILLO, JOSE)
To: NSA DOD TRSY MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006